

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-18, 20, 21, 23, 25-27, 29, 31-37, and 40 are presently active in this case, Claims 25-27, 37, and 40 having been amended by way of the present Amendment, and Claims 1-15, 19, 22, 24, 28, 30, 38, and 39 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the outstanding Official Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The Applicants note that Claims 37 and 40 have been amended to recite a breakable dividing line, which is referred to on page 5 of the present application as reference numeral 15. Figure 2 of the present application clearly shows feature 15, and therefore the Applicants submit that the drawings of the present application clearly satisfy the requirements of 37 CFR 1.83(a). Accordingly, the Applicants request the withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

The specification was objected to as failing to provide antecedent basis for the phrase “frangible notch.” As noted above, Claims 37 and 40 have been amended to recite a “breakable dividing line,” and the specification has been amended to provide clear antecedent basis for this phrase. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

Claims 37 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. As noted above, Claims 37 and 40 have been amended to recite a “breakable dividing line,” and the specification has been amended

to provide clear antecedent basis for this phrase. The paragraph beginning on line 17 of page 5 of the original specification clearly provides written description of such a feature. The original specification notes indicates that the lid (12) is divided into sections by removing/breaking off pieces along the directions (15). The lines (15) depicted in Figure 2 and the written description in the original specification clearly provide written description support for a breakable dividing line as claimed. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the written description rejection.

Claims 37 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. One of ordinary skill in the art would clearly know the metes and bounds of the phrase "breakable dividing line" and "frangible notch," as these phrases have very clearly defined terms. It is unclear how such phrases can be misinterpreted. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully requests the withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejection.

Claims 16-18, 20, 21, 23, 25-27, 29, 31-37, and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Everitt (U.S. Patent No. 5,596,176). For the reasons discussed below, the Applicants request the withdrawal of the anticipatory rejection.

In the Office Action, the Everitt reference is indicated as anticipating each of independent Claims 27 and 29. However, the Applicants note that a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claims is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2

USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). As will be demonstrated below, the Everitt reference clearly does not meet each and every limitation of independent Claims 27 and 29.

Claim 27 recites an industrial robot comprising, among other features, a manipulator having an opening and a holder provided within the opening, where the holder is detachably fixed along a section of an edge on a terminal end of the opening. Claim 29 recites an industrial robot comprising, among other features, a manipulator having an opening and a holder provided within the opening, where the holder has a collar with a U-shaped cross section that detachably connects to a section of an edge of the opening. Such features are not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

The Applicants submit that the Everitt reference fails to disclose a holder fixed along a section of an edge on a terminal end of an opening, as recited in Claim 27. The Official Action cites the electrically insulating support member (15) of the Everitt reference for the teaching of the holder of the present invention. The support member (15) is a generally disk-shaped member having several holes therethrough. The support member (15) has a lip along an outer circumferential edge thereof. The lip of the support member (15) rests upon a stepped internal wall portion (32) of housing (11). The stepped internal wall portion (32) of the housing (11) is spaced apart from the terminal end of the housing (11), as is evident from a review of Figure 6. Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that the support member (15) is not fixed along a section of an edge *on a terminal end* of an opening, as is the holder recited in Claim 27 of the present application.

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that the Everitt reference does not disclose all of

the limitations recited in Claim 27 of the present application. Therefore, the Applicants request the withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of Claim 27.

The Applicants submit that the Everitt reference fails to disclose a holder having a collar with a U-shaped cross section that detachably connects to a section of an edge of the opening, as recited in Claim 29. As noted above, the Official Action cites the electrically insulating support member (15) of the Everitt reference for the teaching of the holder of the present invention. The support member (15) is a generally disk-shaped member having several holes therethrough. The support member (15) has a lip along an outer circumferential edge thereof. The lip of the support member (15) rests upon a stepped internal wall portion (32) of housing (11). The support member (15) does not have a collar with a U-shaped cross section that detachably connects to a section of an edge of the opening, as is evident from a review of Figure 6. The support member (15) clearly does not have a feature with a U-shaped cross section.

Accordingly, the Applicants submit that the Everitt reference does not disclose all of the limitations recited in Claim 29 of the present application. Therefore, the Applicants request the withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of Claim 29.

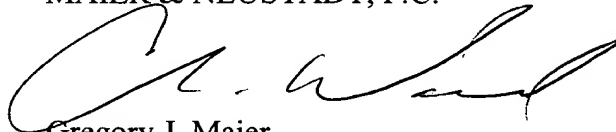
The dependent claims are considered allowable for the reasons advanced for the independent claim from which they respectively depend. These claims are further considered allowable as they recite other features of the invention that are neither disclosed, taught, nor suggested by the applied references when those features are considered within the context of their respective independent claim.

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Consequently, in view of the above discussion, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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